

Please type or print neatly. Completed entry form must be signed and stapled to your essay.

Name _____ Age _____
Home Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
School Name _____
School Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
School phone _____ Home Phone _____
Student's Signature _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian's signature _____ Date _____

Entry Checklist

??Make a copy of your entry as proof of mailing does not constitute proof of receipt/delivery and entries will not be returned.

??Fill out the entry form clearly and completely.

??Sign the entry form. Have your parent or guardian signs it.

??Staple signed entry form to your essay.

??Entries must be postmarked by February 28, 2006 and received by Friday, March 3, 2006.

??Mail your entry to:

Ag in America Essay Contest

Attn: Jennifer Walker

4666 Faries Parkway

Decatur, Illinois 62525

Official Contest Rules

1. To enter, mail an official entry form (a copy of this form is acceptable) along with your essay. **Entries must be postmarked by February 28, 2006 and received by March 3, 2006** in order to be eligible. Limit 1 entry per person. All entries become the property of the Archer Daniels Midland Company ("ADM") and will not be returned. No purchase or payment needed to enter.
2. Responsibility for receipt of entry rests solely with the entrant. Released Parties (as defined below) will not be responsible for any late, lost, stolen, incomplete, mutilated, delayed, undelivered, misdirected or postage-due entries or mail.
3. Essay must be the student's original work, not previously published or submitted, be typed or legibly hand-written, between 500-700 words, and address the theme of "How Agriculture Is Important to My Life and My Future." Judges' decisions will be based equally on the quality of the entrant's thinking, content, organization, mechanics (spelling and grammar), and neatness.
4. Grand Prize: One (1) high school junior will win a \$2,000 government bond (current value) to be put towards schooling. The Grand Prize essay may be published in *American Heritage* magazine. ARV at time of award: \$2,000. Prizes will be awarded by August 30, 2006.
5. Four (4) Honorable Mention winners will each receive a special gift from *American Heritage* and a two-year subscription to *Forbes*, *American Heritage* and *Invention and Technology* magazines. ARV: \$200. The number of entries receiving Honorable Mention will be at the discretion of the judges.
6. By accepting prizes, winners (and his/her parent or legal guardian) consent to the use of their likenesses, photographs, and names for promotion of the "How Agriculture Is Important to My Life and My Future" Essay Contest, without additional compensation, notification or permission, unless prohibited by law. Maximum total ARV of all prizes: \$2,400. Winners are responsible for all federal, state and local taxes, if any. Prizes may not be transferred, substituted, redeemed for cash or assigned in any manner. All prize details not specified herein are at the sole discretion of the Sponsor.
7. Grand Prize winner's parent or legal guardian will be required to execute and return an affidavit of eligibility/liability and, unless prohibited, publicity release within 7 days of issuance. Failure to return such documents within specified time period, to comply with these rules or the return of any prize or prize notification as undeliverable may result in disqualification at Sponsor's discretion.
8. Contest judging shall be judged in two rounds and be conducted by a panel of writers and historians, whose decisions on all matters relating to this contest shall be final and binding. In the event of a tie, an additional "tie-breaking" judge will determine the winner based on the criteria set forth herein. Winners will be selected on or about March 15, 2006, and will be notified after that date. Prizes will be awarded by August 30, 2006.
9. Entrants must be high school juniors in good standing and legal residents of the 50 United States or DC at the time of entry.
10. Void wherever prohibited by law. Subject to all applicable laws and regulations.
11. By entering the contest, every student (and his/her parent or legal guardian) agrees that ADM shall own his/her essay (including all rights embodied therein). ADM and Sponsor reserve all rights, including the right to edit, publish, reproduce, or distribute the student's essay (and all concepts and elements embodied therein) in any and all media now or hereafter known, throughout the world in perpetuity, without additional compensation, notification, or permission, unless prohibited by law.
12. By entering, entrant (and his/her parent or legal guardian) agree to release and hold harmless Released Parties for any claims or liability resulting from participation in the Contest or acceptance or use of any prize.
13. Released Parties shall not be responsible for mechanical, technical, printing, typographical, human, or other errors relating to or in connection with the Contest, including, without limitation, errors which may occur in the administration of the Contest, the processing of entries, the announcement of the prizes or in any Contest-related materials.
14. If for any reason this Contest is not capable of running as planned Sponsor reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to disqualify any individual who tampers with the entry process, and to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Contest. Should the Contest be terminated, Sponsor may, at its sole discretion, judge all eligible, non-suspect entries received as of the time of such action using the judging criteria above.
15. For a list of winners (available after March, 27, 2006), send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Ag in America Essay Contest Winners, Attn: Jennifer Walker, 4666 Faries Parkway, Decatur, Illinois, 62525.
16. Sponsor: American Heritage Inc. and Archer Daniels Midland Company.

